

these of 10,000 imperial yeomen. Of the latter he said it had been alleged that they were neither good horsemen nor good shots. In his own opinion the Yeomanry probably rode well enough, but there was very grave doubt as to the shooting capabilities of a large percentage.

Balfour, who spoke at a luncheon given in Manchester this afternoon, made a speech in which he repudiated the accusation that he was a "thick and thin supporter of the War Office." He declared that even if an angel from heaven told him it was possible in a great war to carry out everything as written out on paper he should know that angel was drawing upon his imagination. It was not true, he added, that the War Office had sent the British army into the field with "guns" which placed them at a hopeless disadvantage with the enemy. He did not claim that the army system was perfect, but the critics ought not to ignore the extraordinary military problems of the present war, between which and the problems with which continental headquarters' staffs had to deal there was no parallel.

For the first time in the history of the world the country had to meet an enemy entirely mounted and it was true that if Great Britain had entered into the war with a vast number of mounted soldiers, it would have been long ago concluded. Hereafter it would also be recognized that guns would not be as mobile as horse soldiers and that field artillery must be made part of the regular equipment of every army. But seeing that the British War Office had not lagged behind the best military opinion of to-day it was ludicrous to charge it with want of prudence. He was sure justice would be done in the time to the administrative system of the army. The last thing the Government desired was any undue concealment of unpleasant facts.

LONDON TURNS OUT TO BID VOLUNTEERS

GOD-BY.

London, 13th January.

Though many stirring scenes have marked the departure of troops for the front, during the month-to-month outbreak of patriotism on the occasion of the starting of the London volunteers was quite unprecedented since the Jubilee. It is the first time that British volunteers have been permitted to serve side by side with the regulars in real warfare and the people turned out hundreds of thousands to fittingly celebrate it. The crowds began to throng the route before dawn and increased in such proportions that a detachment of the Lord Mayor's Own were engulfed at various stages of the route. Ranks were frequently broken and the men were almost lost sight of in the cheering, shouting, singing crowd. Every now and then a halt had to be made in order to reinforce the ranks, but only to be again broken as the police were unable to stem the excited, cheering living mass of people, which again and again broke through all obstructions. The handshakings and embracings were so exuberant that the original smartness of the volunteers was speedily impaired, many uniforms being torn.

But the troops finally managed to struggle through to the Mansion House. On the balcony of that building the Lord Mayor, A. J. Newton, the Lady Mayoress, the Councillors and others awaited the arrival of the volunteers and witnessed them actually fighting their way through the dense crowd, assisted by male friends and impeded by clinging women. When the force was finally reformed the Lord Mayor attempted to make a speech, but found it impossible. The din was simply deafening and the chief magistrate had to indicate his good wishes by smiles and gestures, while the volunteers greeted him with cheers, waving their hats on their raised rifles.

There was another herculean effort on the part of the police and the detachment resumed its march, to the accompaniment of pushing, screaming, cheering and singing. The column had hardly covered a hundred yards when it again intermingled with the surging crowds who had undisputed sway of the route. Many of the volunteers escaped through side streets and others struggled along in single file by twos or threes. Over an hour was consumed in traversing the mile to Westminster. There the police arrangements improved and the multitudes were marshalled into some kind of order. The windows, roofs and every other vantage point were crowded with singing, cheering humanity, waving banners, hats and handkerchiefs.

Finally the column reached Nine Elms station, bearing numberless traces of the difficulties of the march. The public was excluded, the final leave takings being held outside, and the volunteers boarded the train and departed amid a commingling of band music, cheering and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," "Rule Britannia" and "God Save the Queen."

BOER REPORT OF THE LADYSMITH FIGHT.

London, 15th January.

A special dispatch from the Hoofd Linger at Ladysmith, dated January 6th, via Lourenzo Marquez, describing the assault on January 6th upon Ladysmith, says:

"The British made no attempt to hold the first line of breastworks, but made an exceedingly stubborn resistance at the next row. Every inch was stubbornly contested and courageous bravery was displayed on both sides.

"After 10 o'clock the British artillery fire slackened and a terrible individual contest ensued among the riflemen for the possession of Platt-Randridge. At noon a heavy thunder-storm interrupted the battle, lasting two hours.

"Although the burghers succeeded in ultimately gaining possession of most of the British positions on the western side of the Platt-Rand, they were finally obliged to retire from most of the ground they occupied. The British were most strongly entrenched, their redoubts being still fully loopholed, and the combat was so close that rifles were frequently fired at arm's length. It was a hand-to-hand encounter, with the men on both sides fighting like demons, and the horror and bewilderment of the scene could scarcely be paralleled.

"The operations were continued the next day (Sunday) on a smaller scale, but it is reported that as a result of one of the forlorn hopes one gun and two ammunition wagons were captured."

BRITISH HOPE IN SUCCESS.

Berlin, 14th January.

To-day's news that a peace movement is growing in Great Britain is received with incredulity. The *Lokal Anzeiger* says: "It is impossible that the British Government in any event could be influenced by such a movement. Great Britain's prestige imperatively demands, since once she has gone upon the warpath, that she should carry matters to a successful issue."

IN FAVOUR OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Chicago, 13th January.

Three thousand people filled Central Music Hall this evening, cheered for Great Britain and Queen Victoria until their voices were hoarse and denounced the Boers and all their political work. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Sons and Daughters of Great Britain and was enthusiastic in the extreme.

FRENCH REELING.

New York, 13th January.

A cable to the *Tribune* from Paris says: The enthusiasm for the Boers is assuming substantial shape among French military men. According to an investigation made by Henri Rochebot, 211 French officers have thrown up their commissions and have already taken service in the Transvaal army. Colonel de Villebois Maronne, chief of staff to General Joubert, is acclaimed as the hero of Colenso, and is described in the Parisian press as "the commander who has inflicted upon the English their most dramatic defeat since the battle of Yorktown." Portraits of Pte. Villebois Maronne appear in the newspapers and in shop windows.

A BRAVE OFFICER.

New York, 15th January.

A cable to the *Tribune* from Estcourt, Natal, January 13th, says: "Everything is quiet in this vicinity. There is an impression here that the Boers are concentrating elsewhere. A remarkable incident is reported in connection with the charge of the Devons up Wagon Hill in the fighting round Ladysmith on January 6th. Lieutenant Masterson was ordered to cross a fire-swept zone and deliver a message. He was hit by three bullets, but struggled on and delivered his message, which was very important. The Lieutenant is getting well although there are eleven wounds in his body."

BOMB PROCLAMATIONS.

London, 16th January.

A despatch to the *Daily Mail*, dated Saturday, January 13th, from Lourenzo Marquez, says:

President Kruger has issued a proclamation ordering all burghers to the front. The *Volkster*, the official organ, suggests that the moment the British cross the border the gold industry should be irretrievably destroyed.

Kruger issued a circular, dated January 8th, to Boer commandants and burghers, urging them to show more energy in the Transvaal cause. He quotes Psalm 33, verse 7, as God-given instructions to the burghers, and says

that the British have fixed their faith in Psalm 83. He also quotes Psalm 89, verses 13 and 14, and asserts that he searched the Bible without being able to find any other mode which can be followed by the Boers, who must fight "in the name of the Lord."

Commando-swinging is progressing busily at Pretoria, where the town guard is exchanging Mauers for Martini, as the former are badly needed at the front. It is said that there are nearly 3,000 British prisoners in Pretoria.

The *Times* correspondent at Lourenzo Marquez, telegraphing last Saturday, says:

"The Free State has now called out every available man, including the leading merchants, who had expected to enjoy immunity. The *Volkster*, in the course of an article obviously inspired, indicates the gold tax as a political move, holding that if the assumption be correct that the bulk of Rand shares is held on the Continent, Germany, France and other countries must recognize the desirability of bringing the war to a speedy close. It adds that every day the war continues costs the shareholders £17,000. A threat of confiscation will be used to enforce the tax."

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS BY THE HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

T. H. WHITEHEAD.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council will be held at three o'clock on Thursday afternoon. The Hon. T. H. Whitehead has given notice of the following pertinent questions:

(1.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary lay upon the table a copy of the general instructions received from the Secretary of State under which Crown Leases were granted to the Lee Hing Company for the dredging and collection of shells in and around Ping Chan Island in the New Territory as stated by him in Council on 14th December last; and a copy of the said leases?

(2.) Will the Honourable the Director of Public Works inform the Council of the cause of the prolonged delay in constructing the shelter for the Chinese chink coolies at Victoria Gap—the upper terminus of the Peak Tramway, and whether this urgently needed work cannot be proceeded with without further delay?

(3.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary lay on the table a copy of the correspondence which has passed since May, 1899, between the Colonial Office and the Hongkong Government, also a copy of the letter, dated 15th September last, from the Jubilee Committee to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and a copy of the letter's reply thereto, in connection with the road proposed in 1897, to be constructed round the Island to commemorate the 60th year's reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria?

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

1.—First reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Post Office Ordinance, 1887.

2.—First reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Naturalization of Wan Kam Tsang, alias Wan Tsing Kai, alias Wan Ming Kap.

3.—First reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Public Health Ordinance, 1887.

4.—First reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the imposition of fees for the issue by the Government of Hongkong of certain certificates to certain Chinese.

5.—First reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the establishment of a Hospital for infectious diseases in connection with the Tung Wa Hospital.

UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS!!

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3, DUNDELL STREET, HONGKONG.

Has fixed his Departure from here for SATURDAY,

the 24th February, positively last Delay.

OPINION OF THE PRESS.

(From the "Bangkok Times.")

DR. SCHLOSSER, the well known Surgeon Chiropodist, is an historical character; he has at least attended professionally on many historical characters, including a number of crowned heads. He possesses thousands of autographs and letters from people that "we read about in print." General J. A. Garfield, late President of the U.S., being one of them, the Viceroy of India being another. Many Officers of the Indian Army have testified in writing to his skill, among others Lieutenant General Mangle Clarke and the Chief Civil Surgeon in India all declaring that his operations are painless and performed in a few minutes.

(From the "Madras Mail.")

From one who has been recently operated on by DR. SCHLOSSER, we hear that the removal of Corns is done painlessly and quickly. As he removes the Corn by the root, the Cura effected is also permanent.

(From the "Rangoon Gazette.")

DR. SCHLOSSER, a specialist in all kinds of ailments affecting the Feet, and has won quite a name for himself for the efficacious manner in which he has conquered all sorts of Corns, hard or soft, down from the feet of Royalty to those of much humbler rank. People who have spent much and suffered more should now avail themselves of the opportunity of having these most irritating and painful excrescences removed once for all, and without the least pain or inconvenience.

(From the "Egyptian Gazette," Alexandria.)

DR. SCHLOSSER, who left such a good reputation both in Alexandria and Cairo, when he visited those Cities last year, has just returned to Egypt after a successful visit to Constantinople. Doubtless many of our readers suffer from Corns and these will be grateful to learn M. SCHLOSSER'S mode of treating the same is permanent and painless, without bleeding, in a single operation extracting the root of the Corn, allowing the patient to put on his Boots and walk away immediately afterwards without the least pain or inconvenience. We have seen testimonials received from DR. SCHLOSSER'S most distinguished patients, including some well known inhabitants of Alexandria and Cairo, whom he has succeeded in completely curing of their Corns.

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Will leave Hongkong positively

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433

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A REGULAR MEETING of the above Lodge will be held at the FREEMASONS' HALL on FRIDAY, the 16th February, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1900.

478

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 PROSPECTS.

BY M. O'S.
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Hongkong, 31st January, 1900. 388

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Hongkong, 10th August, 1890. 12743

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